

November 18, 2020

Skatetown reopening plan:

Protecting the safety and well-being of all our teammates and guests is our top priority in these challenging times. Please feel assured that we are working diligently to make sure that Skatetown is as safe as possible.

COVID-19 is a big challenge for everyone. We feel our procedures represent a balanced response and will protect our guests and teammates. We will be reviewing these procedures often so they are subject to change on short notice.

Thank you for your support and for helping us get through these challenging times.

What will be open?

Our facility will not be open to the general public at this time.

We will not be offering public skating sessions or birthday parties.

We will be operating as a Sports center and only open to participants that are registered in our programs or that have pre-registered online for “drop in” programs.

Our café will **not** be open and our vending machines are out of order.

Please do not bring in outside food or drinks, other than water bottles.

Physical Distancing guidelines:

The number of people allowed in each building will be limited to no more than 100 guests, until we are approved to host more. As you can see from the following information, we have plenty of space to maintain a safe, physically distanced environment.

Fortunately, at nearly 65,000 square ft, we are a large facility so there is a lot of room to spread out. Each of our two rinks are about 17,000 sq. ft., which provides a lot of space for physical distancing.

Skatetown was constructed in two phases:

Phase 1 building includes the main lobby, party rooms and Rink 1 and is approximately 37,000 sq. ft with occupancy capacity of 1,176.

Phase 2 building includes Rink 2 and is approximately 28,000 with occupancy capacity of 716.

Our normal maximum occupancy is nearly 1,900. We will limit occupancy to 100.

Our lobby has been divided by stanchions to create flow of traffic and we have placed physical distancing marking throughout the building. We ask that you follow and respect these guides.

Video games, vending machines, ATM and drinking fountains will be closed. You can still use the water bottle filling station.

Physical distancing marking and traffic direction signage has been placed throughout the facility.

Parents are welcome in the building and in our bleachers as long as you follow our guidelines.

Will we be safe returning to Skatetown?

Skatetown is well known for having one of the cleanest and best maintained facilities in our industry. As owner/operators, keeping our facility “Disney clean and safe” for our guests and family members is a core principal that we feel very strongly about.

We intend to do everything that we can to improve upon our already high standards and keep Skatetown safe. Having a teammate or guest contract COVID at our facility would be devastating so we want to do everything feasible to prevent that from happening. We ask for your help and understanding towards achieving that goal.

We have very sophisticated HVAC and building automation systems that ensure that the air is clean and ventilation is adequate.

The humidity in our facility is maintained with a large gas fired dehumidification system. The large blue fabric ducting in each rink delivers dry warm air into the rinks to maintain relative humidity levels of 40-50%. Studies suggest that relative humidity at these levels may reduce the transmission of Covid-19 virus. By maintaining these humidity levels, we are able to provide a healthy and safe indoor environment compared to facilities that don't maintain their humidity levels.

Since we open very early in the morning and close late at night, and we have a variety of different programs that run throughout the day, some of which have relatively few people on the ice, we can relatively easily provide physical distancing and other measures to maintain a safe environment for our guests and teammates.

Hockey is one of the few sports where participants wear full gear; which provides more protection than most sports do. Skaters naturally keep a distance from other skaters to avoid collisions and injury.

By implementing strict procedures, limiting the number of guests that we allow in our building and in each of our many different programs, maintaining relative humidity levels, introducing plenty of fresh air into our building, filtering air with high MERV filters, implementing strict and constant cleaning procedures, and having monitors for each of our programs to make sure that our program policies and procedures are being followed, we feel that we can help prevent the spread of the virus in our facility.

We have reviewed and incorporated best practices as recommended by our three National Governing Bodies (USA Hockey, US Figure Skating Association and USA Curling) as well as the Ice Sports Industry. We also have the advantage of watching closely and learning best practices from several ice rinks across the country that have reopened without any reports of problems.

All Skatetown teammates will complete CDPH Coronavirus training, including the processes for identifying new cases of illness and working with public health authorities to halt the spread of the virus.

Temperature of teammates will be checked upon arrival to work. After clocking in, Skatetown Teammates will be required to wash their hands and to wash or disinfect their hands throughout their shift and wear gloves when cleaning and sanitizing surfaces.

Teammates will be required to maintain physical distancing between themselves and guests. A manager will be on duty at all times to monitor and enforce this physical distancing mandate.

Covid-19 signage has been placed throughout the facility reminding teammates and guests to follow the guidelines as shown below.

Children must be accompanied by a parent.

General cleaning and sanitizing:

The entire facility is thoroughly cleaned nightly using disinfectants approved by the EPA against Coronavirus.

During operating hours, Skatetown teammates will be scheduled to constantly clean restrooms and touch points throughout the facility using electrostatic sanitizing guns, foggers, sprayers and rags utilizing disinfectants approved by the EPA against Coronavirus.

Bleachers, benches, player benches and other similar equipment will be sprayed with disinfectant after functions where that equipment was used. Scorekeepers will fog player benches between games while the ice is being resurfaced.

Rental skates are normally sprayed with disinfectant after every use. As an added precaution, all rental skates will be put through the SaniSport sanitizing system after they are used.

Touchless hand sanitizer dispensers have been placed throughout the facility. Touchless faucets, soap dispensers and hand driers have been installed in the restrooms.

Spray bottles with Purtab sanitizer have been located at each player bench for any guest that wants to use it between our scheduled sanitizing. We have also installed paper towel dispensers at each player bench and scorekeeper booth for guest use.

Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes have been placed at each point of sale location for teammate use along with 50/50 mixture of isopropyl alcohol and water for cleaning touchscreens and other shared equipment.

Air conditioning equipment will utilize MERV 13 filters, utilize outside air rather than recirculated air when outside air temperatures permit, and the building control system will ensure that adequate outside air is being introduced into the building based on carbon dioxide levels.

Dasher doors to the rinks will be left open when practical and safe.

The teammate breakroom and the coaches changing room will be closed.

Tables in the lounge will be separated to create physical distancing and can only be shared by members of the same family.

We ask that everyone sanitize/disinfect all equipment including hockey gear, skates or skate bags before coming to the rink. Machine wash soft items and spray hard items with a disinfectant.

We will no longer keep lost and found items. Any items left by guests will be discarded.

When you are ready to return to Skatetown:

Before coming to Skatetown, please review our policies and procedures and arrive prepared.

Check your temperature at home before coming to the rink, and if you are feeling sick at all or exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19, please stay home.

If you have had contact with persons who have contracted the virus, please refrain from coming to the rink until two weeks of quarantine have passed.

Please arrive no earlier than 30 minutes before your ice time and leave within 30 minutes of getting off the ice.

Upon arrival each time:

- Enter through the front doors only
- All participants and spectators must stop and 1) have their temperature taken and 2) read the COVID-19 notice posted in the front lobby: *“By entering this building, I agree that:*
 - *I am not currently experiencing fever (>100.4F), cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle aches, chills, runny nose or congestion, recent loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea*
 - *I have not been in an area affected by widespread COVID-19*
 - *I have not been told to self-quarantine*
 - *I have not had close contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19”*

Entering and exiting the building:

Entrance to Skatetown will be through our front doors only. Our patio and back door will be set to open from the inside only and can be used for exiting the building.

We require guests to wear a face covering while in our building. If you are unable to wear a face mask, you will need to wear a face shield. We have face shields and masks available for purchase at the front desk. All our teammates will be wearing masks. Teammates will wear gloves when appropriate such as for cleaning.

One set of front doors is designated and marked for “entrance only”. When you arrive, please immediately sanitize or wash your hands after opening the front door. We have several new hand sanitizing stations throughout the building, including at the front entrance where you enter our building.

Can I get ready to skate or play hockey at Skatetown?

You can put your skates on inside the building but you must put on your hockey gear before you enter the building.

Our locker rooms are closed. We ask that you come to the rink dressed for hockey or change in the tents or on the patio. Please wear a base layer since the outside dressing areas are not private. You should also bring skate blade guards as the sand in the turf can dull your blades.

Store your bag in your car or bring it into the rink and put it in the bleachers on an X. Do not leave your bags in the tents or on the patio as we need to leave room for the next group coming in to change. We will not be responsible for lost or stolen items.

Our lobby, lobby benches, bleaches and hockey benches have been marked with an X at 6’ intervals to provide physical distancing. When inside the building, please use these marks to maintain physical distance.

We will not be allowing spectators for adult hockey games in order to limit the number of people in the building.

For programs that you have to pay for as you participate such as drop in, stick time, freestyle, hockey skills, etc., it’s best to register online in advance:

Since we will be limiting attendance, we have set up online enrollment so you can pay in advance to assure that you will be able to skate and so that you don’t have to interact with a cashier. If you have paid in advance, please check in with the cashier so they can note that you are here and check you in. You will not need to sign in on a sign in sheet as we have required in the past.

You can still pay when you arrive as long as there is space available or a teammate to handle your transaction. We prefer that you use money on your house account or a credit card terminal to minimize contact.

Programming summary:

Below is a listing of programs we plan to offer and a summary of the changes we will make.

Freestyle sessions/figure skating practice sessions:

Online enrollment is preferred and will be necessary to make sure that you can skate.

Sessions will be limited to 20 skaters to accommodate physical distancing

Skaters must bring their own sound system. If using a mobile device with ear phones, please limit your earphones to one ear only.

Instructors must maintain physical distancing and refrain from helping skaters up. If you must help a skater up, please make sure that you are wearing a mask and gloves.

Skaters should warm up prior to coming into the building. The turf pad is available for warming up.

Skaters must bring their own drinks in personal containers.

Jump harness is available and must be sanitized after each use using the adjacent sprayer containing Purtabs.

Coaches should use verbal cues rather than physical contact.

The freestyle monitor will patch holes in the ice to minimize multiple people touching the hole patching equipment

Learn to Skate classes/Learn to play hockey classes/hockey skills:

Online enrollment is preferred and will be necessary to make sure that you can skate.

Classes will be overseen and monitored to ensure compliance with our standards

Class sizes will be limited and students will be spaced out to accommodate physical distancing

Helmets and buckets will not be available

Instructors must maintain physical distancing and refrain from helping skaters up. If you must help a skater up, please make sure that you are wearing a mask and gloves.

Instructors should use verbal cues rather than physical contact.

If rental skates are needed, leave your skates in the lobby for a Skatetown teammate to put away.

The dasher boards surrounding the rink will be marked for maintaining physical distancing

Birthday parties

We will not be offering our birthday parties at this time.

Pro shop/retail store

Shop will operate on reduced hours or by appointment.

Curling:

Curling will operate according to a detailed social distancing plan that the Wine Country Curling Club Board has prepared. This plan is posted at the entrance of rink 2 where curling takes place.

Coffee Club will not be offered

Hockey functions:

The number of participants on the ice will be limited and players will be spaced out to accommodate physical distancing

No body contact is allowed.

Players should arrive no earlier than 30 minutes prior to their game/event and leave within 30 minutes after their game/event.

See notes above about use of the facility for putting on gear.

Facial coverings are required on the ice for hockey league games, drop-in, adult skills classes and travel hockey. Facial coverings include masks, neck gaiters or Howies Splash Guards, or equal. <https://howieshockeytape.com/products/splash-guards>. We have gaiters, masks and Splash Guards available for sale at the front desk.

Players must sit 6' apart on the players bench. Additional chairs have been placed adjacent to the player bench at 6' intervals. Penalties may be issued for not physical distancing on the benches.

Per our current policies, full hockey gear must be worn

While on the ice, players must maintain a "stick length" distance from other players to maintain physical distancing

Do not spit or blow your nose on the ice or in the bench areas. There are paper towel dispensers that have been installed on each bench for your use. This will be strictly enforced due to the highly contagious nature of these actions.

Spray bottles full of disinfectants approved by the EPA against Coronavirus have been placed on the wall of each player bench for players that wish to use it to spray their gear, the bench or other items.

Players should wash washable gear after each game and disinfect equipment such as helmets, sticks and skates

Water bottles should be marked with your name, never shared and washed after each game

This plan was prepared by Scott Slavensky, with the input of the Skatetown Management Team.

Our local health department contact information is:

Dr. Rob Oldham

Interim Health Officer and Director of HHS

Department of Health and Human Services | Public Health Division

530-886-3644 | placer.ca.gov